

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
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NSC-05 EB-08 OMB-01 /096 W
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P R 211847Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE ASHDC PRIORITY 9610
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
OSD WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION USNATO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 11480

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MPOL, MILI, JA, GW
SUBJECT: VISIT OF JAPANESE DEFENSE MINISTER TO BONN

REFS: (A) USNATO 6073 DTG 151316Z JUN 78 (NOTAL)
(B) SECDEF 5980 DTG 122327Z JUN 78 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN HIS JUNE 16 MEETING WITH DEFENSE
MINISTER APEL, THE JAPANESE DEFENSE MINISTER, SHIN
KANEMARU, EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR MORE
COORDINATION IN THE DEFENSE OF THE WORLD'S DEMOCRACIES,
CALLED FOR MORE CONTACTS BETWEEN JAPAN AND NATO, AND
SAID HE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO STRENGTHEN JAPAN'S DEFENSE.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON THE JUNE 16 MEETING BETWEEN
FRG DEFENSE MINISTER APEL AND JAPANESE DEFENSE MINISTER
SHIN KANEMARU IS BASED ON AN ORAL BRIEFING WHICH WE WERE
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GIVEN BY GENERAL WOLFGANG ALTENBURG, HEAD OF THE DEFENSE
MINISTRY'S OFFICE OF POLITICAL/MILITARY AFFAIRS. THE
MEETING BETWEEN APEL AND KANEMARU WAS ATTENDED BY
WALTER STUETZLE, HEAD OF THE DEFENSE MINISTRY'S PLAN-
NING STAFF, THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO GERMANY, BUNROKO
YOSHINO, AND MR. OKASAKI, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN
RELATIONS IN THE JAPANESE DEFENSE AGENCY.

2. ALTENBURG SAID KANEMARU EMPHASIZED TO APEL IN A GENERAL WAY THAT THERE MUST BE MORE COORDINATION OF THE DEFENSE OF THE WORLD'S DEMOCRATIC NATIONS. SUCH DEFENSE MUST BE VIEWED IN A WORLD-WIDE CONTEXT. KANEMARU SAID HE FAVORED MORE CONTACTS BETWEEN JAPAN AND NATO, WITHOUT, HOWEVER, IMPLYING THAT THERE SHOULD BE ANY INSTITUTIONAL OR OTHER FORMALIZED LINK.

3. ALTENBURG SAID KANEMARU APPEARED "VERY PRO-US". KANEMARU EMPHASIZED THAT JAPAN RELIED ON THE MILITARY STRENGTH OF THE US FOR ITS OWN PROTECTION AND THAT IT NEEDED THE US FORCES WHICH ARE STATIONED IN JAPAN.

4. KANEMARU ASKED WHAT THE GERMANS DID IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR US FORCES IN GERMANY. THE GERMAN SIDE GAVE KANEMARU A GENERAL BRIEFING ON THIS QUESTION, MENTIONING IN PARTICULAR THE LARGE AMOUNT OF REAL ESTATE IN GERMANY WHICH IS PROVIDED TO US FORCES RENT FREE. HOWEVER, APEL EMPHASIZED THAT OFFSET AS SUCH IS NO LONGER PAID.

5. KANEMARU SAID HE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVE JAPAN'S DEFENSE. HE SAID A RECENT POLL HAD INDICATED THAT 86 PERCENT OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE WERE "PRO-DEFENSE".
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6. APEL UNDERScoreD THE LARGE SIZE OF THE GERMAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEFENSE OF NATO. HE SAID THAT GERMANY

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ALLOCATED A MUCH LARGER PERCENTAGE OF ITS GNP TO DEFENSE THAN DID JAPAN, AND HE ENCOURAGED THE JAPANESE TO MAKE GREATER DEFENSE EFFORTS.

7. THE GERMAN SIDE BRIEFED KANEMARU IN GENERAL TERMS ON THE MILITARY THREAT TO WESTERN EUROPE, ON THE RESULTS OF THE NATO SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON, AND ON THE NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM (LTDP).

8. THE GERMAN SIDE ALSO PROVIDED KANEMARU WITH A BRIEFING ON THE CONCEPT OF GERMAN ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT (HOST NATION SUPPORT) FOR US FORCES WHICH WOULD DEPLOY TO GERMANY IN AN EMERGENCY.

9. ON US-GERMAN SECURITY RELATIONS, APEL SAID THERE WERE "DIFFERENCES OF VIEW", BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN DEMONSTRATED

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STRATED TIME AFTER TIME THAT SUCH DIFFERENCES "CAN BE CLEARED UP IN HARMONY".

10. ALTENBURG SAID HE CONSIDERED THE APEL-KANEMARU MEETING "IMPORTANT" AND "FAR MORE THAN JUST A COURTESY CALL". HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS THE FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT OF A JAPANESE DEFENSE MINISTER TO BONN. ALTENBURG SAID THE MEETING USEFULLY UNDERSCORED THE COMMONALITY OF INTEREST ON SECURITY QUESTIONS BETWEEN GERMANY AND JAPAN AND, IN A BROADER SENSE, BETWEEN JAPAN AND NATO. STOESEL

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